

Ditton Primary Newsletter

28th February 2025

Message from the Headteacher

We are looking forward to welcoming you to our upcoming parent consultations, where we will have the opportunity to discuss your child's progress and next steps in their learning. Please ensure that you book your appointment via School Ping as soon as possible to secure a convenient time.

This term, we are placing a strong focus on times tables in Years 3 to 6. Knowing times tables fluently is a crucial skill that underpins many areas of maths, and regular practice can make a significant difference in your child's confidence and ability. All children in these year groups have access to TTRockstars both at home and in school. Just 10 minutes a day of times table practice can help build speed, accuracy, and fluency in their maths work. We encourage all children to make the most of this valuable resource.

We also have some staffing updates to share. We wish Miss Alderton all the best as she starts her maternity leave. The class has been working well with Mrs Pauls, and I am pleased to say that the handover between teachers has gone smoothly. Additionally, we welcome Miss Edwards to our team, as Miss Woodward has started her maternity leave earlier than expected. I am sure you will all offer her your support and understanding as she settles into her new role.

Thank you for your ongoing support.



Diary Dates

4th Mar – School Nurse drop in sessions
5th/6th Mar – Parent consultation meetings
6th Mar – World Book Day
7th – Y5 trip to Jodrell Bank

12th Mar – Year 5 and 6 online science event
17th Mar – Spring Concert at St P and P
18th/19th/20th – Year 3 residential
21st Mar – Red Nose Day
28th Mar – Fun Food Chef
7th Apr – Y6 practise tests
11th Apr – Easter Holidays

Reception



What a lovely first week back. We have loved hearing about the children's break, and have enjoyed some sunny weather this week!



English - We have started our journey of Traditional Tales, with the story Little Red, by Bethan Woolvin. Children compared this version to others they have heard, and started learning some new vocabulary from the model text. They produced some excellent writing this week too!

Maths - We have been exploring 3D shapes, and finding them represented in the environment. We talked about how we could tell which shape, based on their properties.



Topic - We learnt about the days of the week, and started to think about the things we do on specific days, such as Music, Spanish and Forest School... and Mrs Till's dance class on a Thursday!

Please see Tapestry for homework and home observation ideas.

Year 1

In Year 1 this week...

English - The children have enjoyed immersing themselves in our new vehicle text for spring 'Where the Wild Things Are'. The children have been writing predictions by applying their phonics to write sentences.

Phonics - This week we have focused on introducing sounds or (ur), are (air). The children have practised segmenting words containing these sounds and have had the opportunity to apply these independently within their writing.

RE - This week we have discussed what makes a good parent. The children came up with some lovely ideas and it was nice to hear about their positive experiences from home.

Reminders - Children to come to school dressed as a 'kind character' from a text for World Book Day (Thurs 6.3.25).

-Please ensure you are reading regularly with your child at home and logging this on Boom Reader.

-Book amnesty- please check around your home for any overdue library books. The children have to return their library book to exchange for a new one.

Year 2

What a busy and lovely first week back!

Children have been completing booklets in English and Maths this week to show off their year 2 skills. They have worked incredibly hard and we are really proud of them.

In Music children are continuing with their keyboard lessons and enjoying them thoroughly.

In our spelling sessions we have been focusing on spelling the months of the year.

All of year 2 would like to wish Miss Alderton all the best as she starts her maternity leave. We hope you have a wonderful time filled with love joy and (if possible) rest. She will be hugely missed!

Reminders

Reads need to be logged 3x weekly on boom reader

Please return any reading/library books you may have at home

Year 3

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This week in Year 3, we have completed our termly assessments in English. The children worked hard, well done!

In 3AB, we looked further into the 4 Times Tables and in 3KD we have completed the column subtraction method and we are excited to move onto Multiplication and Division. Please ensure your child is accessing TTRS to improve their multiplication knowledge.

In spelling, we looked further into prefixes and the children enjoyed learning about it. In Forest School, the children thoroughly enjoyed planting their own Watercress and they are observing these daily.

Year 4

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This week, we have been busy completing our termly assessments in English and Maths. The children's effort and attitude have been positive- well done all!

In Maths, we have started to think about 'finding the difference' and we will be continuing this next week.

In English, we have been planning for our own myth narrative as we have been designing our own creatures and writing a character description about them.

In computing, we have been exploring networks and thinking about routers and the world wide web.

Year 5

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Year 5 have been planning their restoring an environment narrative in English and on Friday wrote their first paragraph. In Maths, we have been finding unit and non unit fractions of quantities, using bar models to develop our understanding. In science we looked at simple mechanisms, including levers, pulleys and gears. We are looking forward to our visit to Jodrell Bank next week to launch our new science unit looking at Earth and Space. Please remember to respond to the Ping sent out last week.

Year 6

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This week Y6 have begun working on a new book ("Varmints") as the inspiration for an environmental narrative. The children are working hard on their use of tense in this story as they have to write an epilogue at the end that changes from past tense to present tense. In Maths, we have been working hard on improving our arithmetic skills ahead of the SATS tests in May. In Computing we have been having fun designing houses using 3D modelling software Tinkercad.

Attendance!

Class	Attendance	Number of lates
Mrs L-Byrne/Mrs Till	96.81% FANTASTIC! Well done!	3
Mr Longworth	93.41% This is below the school target of 96%	2
Miss Dixon	97.68% FANTASTIC! Well done!	1
Mrs Driscoll	91.47% This is below the school target of 96%	5
Miss Alderton	88.35% This is below the school target of 96%	6
Miss Powell	92.28% This is below the school target of 96%	2
Miss Doherty	94.78% This is below the school target of 96%	2
Miss Banlin	97.3% FANTASTIC! Well done!	5
Mr Paul	96.38% This is below the school target of 96% but so close!!!	6
Mrs Hubball	94.12% This is below the school target of 96%	3
Mr Linaker	96% FANTASTIC! Well done!	1
Miss Edwards	98.14 % FANTASTIC! Well done!	7
Mr White	94.35% This is below the school target of 96%	3
Mr Bourque	88.15% This is below the school target of 96%	2

It's been another busy week and we are appreciative of all the efforts to ensure that children are in school, each day, on time.

We will be increasing the number of home visits when children are absent in order to fulfil our safeguarding responsibilities and ensure we are offering support to all families.

The school's attendance target is set at 96%.

Several classes have been impacted by families choosing to take vacations during term time. Please note that, in accordance with government guidelines, the Local Authority is imposing fines of £160 per parent, for each child, if there are more than five days of unauthorised absence due to holidays.

Brilliant Behaviour

We are so proud of our pupils - out of all the behaviour logged on Track-it lights this week - 96% has been positive! In the month of February, over 1166 points were given for showing kindness.



Top classes this week

EYFS/KS1

1st - Y1 LD
2nd - Y2AP
3rd - Y1 RD.

KS2

1st - Y3AB
2nd - Y4CH
3rd - Y4TP



Top pupils this week

YRRLJ - Jacob L
Y1LD - Warren S
Y2LA - Ezra K.
Y3AB - Klaidi D
Y4CH - Alfie T
Y5ML - Eva B.
Y6GB - Ronnie W.

YRKLBN/LT - Jalissa A
Y1RH - Leola D
Y2AP - Skyla-Mai L
Y3KD - Lottie W
Y4TP - Jacob A
Y5LW - Harvey R
Y6DW - Roel G

AWESOME!

